

PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 99-442
Application Serial No. 09/533,467

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 13, line 7, and ending on page 13, line 15, with the following amended paragraph:

In step S24, the router 10 processor then inspects all the link-state information received in the router 12 update, and verifies that the "if and only if" statement for each of these links is true. For example, if router 12 reports that the link to router 14 is operational, the most recent update from router 14 must also report that the link to router 12 is also operational. If router 12 reports this link to be non-operational, router 14 must make the same report. Similarly, the router 10 processor checks that router 12 and router 14 have agreed upon the network portion of the IP address for the link [16], and any other common characteristics of the link.